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BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER,
1962.

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A. W. HANSELL, M.B.,B.S.
Medical Officer of Health.

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BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health's Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1962.

Correction - Page 1 - EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Crude Death Rate 10.84 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Death Rate:- 9.61.

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BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F O R T H E

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER,

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A. W. HANSELL, M.B.,B.S.
Medical Officer of Health.

BEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

North Riding of Yorkshire.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending

31st December, 1962.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Bedale Rural District Council,

SIR, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1962.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

(1) One Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
(2) One Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector (Full-time)
(3) One Additional Public Health Inspector (Full-time)
(4) One Waterworks Manager (Full-time).

STATISTICS.

Area	43,302 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid 1962)	8,110
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (end of 1962)	2,464
Rateable Value of the Area ...	£95,484
Product of a Penny Rate ...	385. 11. 2½d

NOTE:

The figure given above for the estimated resident population includes Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the Area. The estimated population last year was - 8,480.

Owing to the inclusion of the Armed Forces in the estimated population it is necessary to multiply the Crude Birth Rate and Death Rate by the "comparability factors" for the Area in order to attain the rates comparable with other Areas in the country.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Legitimate	79	84	163	) Crude Birth Rate
Illegitimate	4	1	5	) 20.71
Adjusted Birth Rate	23.59			
Stillbirths.				
Legitimate	4	2)	8	
Illegitimate	1	1)		
Deaths.	38	50	88	Crude Death Rate 18.50 per 1,000 population.
Adjusted Death Rate:-	19.61			
Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age				
Legitimate	Nil	1	1	
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	Nil	1	1
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil

Deaths of Infants under One Week of Age.

Legitimate	Nil	1	1
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil

Deaths from Maternal Causes ... ... Nil

GENERAL PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory facilities. (b) Nursing Services.
(c) Ambulance Services. (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.
(e) Hospitals.

During the year under review the above services have on the whole proved adequate for the District, though at times the Hospital accommodation for chronic sick and infirm men has been insufficient.

With regard to the Home Help Service, this is frequently below the requirements of the District, largely on account of the difficulty in obtaining suitable personnel.

DATA SUPPLIED BY THE WATERWORKS MANAGER.

W A T E R.

QUANTITY.

During the year under review, owing to the increased demands during the Summer, it was again necessary to turn off the water in some parts of the Council's District in the hours least likely to cause inconvenience, between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. This was done, on an average, twice weekly. In addition, Notices to Consumers were posted in every Parish asking that the utmost care be taken in the use of mains water and requiring that the watering of gardens and the washing of private motor cars by hose-pipes by discontinued. The response of the public to these restrictions was generally very satisfactory and it did not become necessary for any Consumer to be prosecuted for contravening them.

QUALITY.

The whole water supply to the area has been treated by chlorination and the quality generally has been most satisfactory. Twenty-six samples were taken from fittings supplied from the Council's mains in various parts of the Rural District. All these samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton, for analysis, and, with the exception of two, proved free from any contamination.

AUXILIARY SUPPLIES.

The Council completed the 6" main extension from Morton Village in the Northallerton Rural District to Leeming Bar in the Bedale Rural District where it was connected to our existing 6" main. This was done in an endeavour to further supplement supplies in the Council's distributory area and, in view of increasing demand, it has been necessary for a supply from the Northallerton Rural District Council to be taken continuously. Such supply originates at Northallerton Water Board's Cod Beck Source which is fully treated.

FRACTURED MAINS.

During the year under review, work on fractured mains was carried out at Bedale, Tanfield, Londonderry, Leeming, Clifton, Crakehall, Snape, Well, Scruton and Leeming Bar. In all cases this work proceeded with the least possible inconvenience to the Consumers concerned.

PROPERTIES SUPPLIED.

There are 2,220 dwellinghouses supplied from the public water mains serving a population of approximately 8,110. In addition, approximately 116 dwellings are served from private supplies and there are 9 supplied by a stand pipe.

The following is the position for each Parish in the Rural District:-

	From Public Mains	Private Supplies etc.
Ainderby Miers with Holtby	8	9
Aiskew Non-Lighting Area	158	1
Aiskew Lighting Area	150	2
Bedale	490	-
Burneston	74	3
Burrill with Cowling	35	1
Carthorpe	85	-
Clifton	17	-
Crakehall	139	6
East Tanfield	5	11
Exelby, Leeming & Newton	182	-
Firby	23	2
Gatenby	10	1
Hackforth	35	2
Howgrave	2	-
Killerby	10	-
Kirkby Fleetham	151	8
Kirklington	61	8
Langthorne	23	-
Rand Grange	2	1
Rookwith	5	1
Scruton	92	-
Snape with Thorp	125	-
Sutton Howgrave	24	1
Swainby with Allerthorpe	4	3
Theakston	19	-
Thirn	24	2
Thornton Watlass	53	2
Well	92	-
West Tanfield	122	52
	2,220	116

This figure excludes the 198 married quarters at the Leeming R. A. F. Station but these are also supplied from the public mains.

CONNECTIONS AND METERS.

During the year, 35 connections have been taken from the Council's mains and 8 meters installed. These are supplying farms and private houses etc. in the Bedale Rural Area.

PRESSURE RECORDINGS.

Pressure recorders have been installed in various places in the Bedale, Leyburn and Northallerton Rural Areas of supply for testing and record purposes.

CHLORINATION PLANT.

A new chlorination plant with automatic change-over panel was installed at the Bellerby Intake Works and this is operating very satisfactorily.

CONSUMPTION.

Average daily consumption in the Bedale Rural Area	-	563,000
Average daily consumption in the Leyburn Rural Area	-	53,000
Leeming Aerodrome average daily consumption	-	74,000
		690,000

DATA SUPPLIED BY THE SURVEYOR & CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This year has seen the virtual completion of two new sewerage and sewage disposal schemes, the first and largest being that for Leeming and Leeming Bar and the second for Thornton Watlass. In both cases, but for the severe weather conditions towards the end of the year, the works could now have been in use. Both schemes were urgently needed and their completion will not only put an end to the serious pollution of 3 watercourses and one pond but will enable bathroom and W.C. facilities to be provided in many dwellings.

As the year ends all is ready for work to commence on the new Snape Sewage Disposal Works. This scheme was very necessary, the old works being so overloaded and inadequate that there was heavy pollution of the stream receiving the effluent. This scheme should be completed during 1963.

The Council's Consulting Engineers have now almost completed the preparation of the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes and this should soon be available for submission to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government. It is hoped that construction work on the scheme will be started in 1963. Preparation of the Great and Little Crakehall Scheme is also well advanced and details should be presented to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government during the coming year.

Many schemes still remain to be carried out before the area can be considered to be properly and adequately sewered but, as I stated in my report for 1961, the Council is well aware of the position and is firmly resolved to proceed as quickly as possible with the sewering of each parish until the whole of the area has been dealt with.

During the year the Council has set up the nucleus of a mobile direct labour gang which will ultimately service the whole of the sewers and sewage disposal works in the area. At present two men are employed on the work and they are equipped with a Ferguson Tractor and all steel watertight tipping trailer. This machine is employed on the emptying of sludge drying beds and the disposal of sludge together with any other haulage which may be required. In addition a new Karrier Yorkshire Cesspool Emptier has been purchased and this is employed on the regular cleansing of the settling tanks on the old sewers and for flushing the new sewers as required. The machine is also available for emptying private septic tanks, this work being carried out at a reasonable charge to the owner of the premises concerned. The Council also possess a trailer sludge pump fitted with a 5 h.p. Douglas Petrol engine and 3" diameter Adams centrifugal pump. This machine is particularly useful when dealing with tanks not accessible to the Cesspool Emptier. All sewer blockages are dealt with by the mobile gang although in the case of very serious or difficult blockages additional casual labour can be employed.

Formerly the whole of this work, with the exception of the maintenance of the Bedale and the Leeming Bar Sewage Works, was carried out by a Contractor and when this contract expired on the 31st October last, the direct labour scheme came into action. This had, of course, been planned some months ahead and consequently the change-over presented no real difficulties. The new system is settling down very well and I feel sure it will prove much more satisfactory and efficient than the previous contract arrangement.

All the machinery previously mentioned is based on Bedale Hall, the Council's Headquarters, and a large new garage was constructed to house machines and tools. The new building is sufficiently large to allow for expansion of this service in the future and additional land is available for extension of the building should this be required at any time.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

This service is still carried out on a contract basis, the present contract expiring in November, 1964. The Contractor employs two Karrier Refuse Freighters for the work, both are quite modern and the service is generally satisfactory. Any complaints of neglect are quickly dealt with although these are normally not large in number.

Privy ashpits are steadily disappearing, due largely to the provision of new sewers and the Standard Grants now available to householders which are encouraging the installation of W.C.s and in many cases bathrooms together with dust-bins for refuse storage. The Council do not, in fact, undertake the emptying of any ashpit where the premises are provided with a water closet. Thus the work of refuse collection is made less objectionable although the bulk of refuse to be removed is growing. This seems to be due largely to the amount of paper and cardboard used in modern methods of food packing and to a lesser extent to a steady growth in the use of canned foods. This increase in bulk is particularly noticeable at the refuse tip where areas are being covered much more quickly than was formerly the case.

Refuse has continued to be disposed of by tipping at tips situated near Bedale and Leeming Bar and the Council is hopeful that another tipping area near Kirklington might be secured. This latter tip would be most useful for the southern part of the district and is particularly valuable as a partial replacement for the Bedale tip which is almost full and may well be ready for sealing off in twelve to eighteen months. Soil is being accumulated for this purpose and the land, which is owned by the Council, will then be sown down and properly used for agricultural purposes.

Rodent Control.

No men are yet directly employed on this service, a very satisfactory Contractor being available to undertake such work in the area. This Contractor does in fact carry out regular rodent control on the Council's tips.

The Council's officers are always on the look out for infestations when making visits and where rats or mice are found they advise the occupier concerned on the best methods to employ to exterminate the vermin.

Housing.

The year under review has again been very satisfactory so far as all aspects of progress in housing are concerned.

Dealing first with Slum Clearance 14 unfit houses have been closed which brings the total of such houses closed for human habitation since the slum clearance programme commenced to 214. It is anticipated that slum clearance will be completed in about two years' time and that this will necessitate the closing of approximately 40 houses.

The improvement of sub-standard dwellings has been encouraged in every way possible and during the year 7 Discretionary Grants and 27 Standard Grants have been made available to property owners. Since the innovation of Improvement Grants the Council has made 107 Discretionary Grants and 102 Standard Grants. Whilst there has been satisfactory progress in the improvement of existing sound, though sub-standard houses, it is felt that much more could be done if more owners would take advantage of the grants offered, for undoubtedly, such action would reduce the possibility of a new crop of slums arising in the future years.

The building of new houses by the Council has continued steadily and 19 houses and bungalows have been completed and occupied during the year. At the end of the year 27 dwellings were in course of erection and these included 10 Old Peoples Bungalows with Caretakers Flat and Common Room. This new venture will, upon completion, provide 10 centrally heated bungalows for elderly people which will be used to house old persons in need of care and attention. A warning bell system is to be installed so that at any time of day or night the occupants of any of the bungalows can call the resident Caretaker should they need medical or other urgent help. The bungalows are excellently sited, being close to the town centre with shops, churches, doctors surgery etc., all close at hand and in addition each dwelling looks out onto a road where the traffic and people passing by should help to reduce the feeling of loneliness experienced by so many old people. The Common Room is intended to provide a centre where all the tenants can gather to talk, play games etc., whilst at the rear a pergola will overlook a large area of lawn and flower beds providing ideal conditions for enjoying the summer weather.

The area in general continues to attract new residents and private house development has continued without pause during the year, 23 private houses having been completed and occupied. When the year ended a further 26 private houses were in course of erection and there is a continued demand for land for sites for such houses, particularly in or near Bedale. There are also in the area a large number of residential caravans used principally by service personnel temporarily stationed at a Royal Air Force station. The Council has licenced two large sites near the Station and these accommodate some 32 such vans. The sites are provided with proper toilet blocks, drainage, water supply, roads etc., both are well managed and satisfactorily meet a housing problem peculiar to such establishments. In addition there are a number of sites licensed for one van only where the van occupier, for one reason or another, apparently prefers this type of dwelling and all are satisfactory.

Meat and Food Inspection.

Large quantities of meat continue to be produced in the area and the year under review is a record one for the number of animals slaughtered. In fact 109,018 animals were slaughtered at the four licensed slaughterhouses situated in the District. The majority of the meat produced is exported to all parts of the country and this places a heavy responsibility and burden on the Council's Meat Inspectors. Slaughtering is carried out on all seven days of the week, including most bank holidays, and whilst late night killing is not now quite so prevalent it does mean that one Inspector has to be on call every weekend and during all holidays. One cannot help feeling that, with modern refrigeration equipment, the necessity for Sunday, holiday and late night slaughtering is not really justifiable.

A statement showing the number of animals slaughtered and the meat condemned is attached to this report. It will be noted that Tuberculosis is still shown to be occurring amongst cattle and I think it should be pointed out that this is principally due to the fact that a good number of 'Re-actors' are dealt with in one Slaughterhouse where they are sent by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food Veterinary Officers. Tuberculosis in normal market cattle is very rarely found.

Condemned meat continues to be disposed of as described in previous reports and remains satisfactory. Each of the four slaughterhouses have proper arrangements for detaining such meat until it is removed for destruction.

Food Shops and Food Hygiene.

Regular attention continues to be given to these premises and conditions are generally satisfactory. Where minor contraventions of Food Hygiene of the Regulations have been found, the occupier of the premises concerned has always been ready and willing to take the necessary action to comply with terms of the Regulations. A steady trend of modernisation is apparent in a number of shops where the latest type of display unit and equipment is being installed together with a greatly increased amount of pre-packing of food stuffs of all types. This is not only more attractive to the customer but in addition reduces the risk of food contamination by handling in the shops.

Factories Act, 1937 to 1959.

Attached to the report is a statement showing particulars on the administration of the Act so far as it concerns the Council. There is no statement dealing with Part VIII of the Act, this being a Nil return for the area.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year ending DECEMBER, 1962.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	5099	415	203	20637	82664
Number inspected	5099	415	203	20637	82664
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis					
Whole carcases condemned	4	7	25	103	176
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	872	69	1	494	2629
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or Cysticercosis	17.18	18.31	12.81	2.89	3.39
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	16	7	-	1728
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.16	3.85	3.45	-	2.09
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	9	9	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	29	61	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	34	40	Nil	Nil
Total.....	72	110	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			Referred		
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil				

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Disease	Total Cases	Deaths
Pneumonia	13	2
Scarlet Fever	1	Nil
Measles	133	Nil
Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	7	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

One new case occurred during the year affecting the lungs in a young woman, aged 26 years, the Wife of a Serviceman stationed in the District.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

OTHER DISEASES ETC.

Of the 10 deaths from cancer during the year 3 of them were due to primary growths occuring in the lungs.

Motor Vehicle Accidents accounted for one death amongst the population.

In concluding my Report I should again like to thank your Public Health Inspectors and your Waterworks Manager for the very valuable help they have accorded me during the year.

I have the honour to be Sir, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN W. HANSELL,

Medical Officer of Health.